

July 25, 2017 Board Meeting: Safety Study: Reducing Speeding-Related Crashes Involving Passenger Vehicles

Acting Chairman Robert L. Sumwalt

Closing Statement

In closing, I really want to thank my colleagues for the good discussion and debate. Thank you all.

And I'd like to thank the whole team who pulled this together. Nathan Doble and Ivan Cheung, you led the efforts on this research and engineering side, and Kenny Bragg, you were an invaluable source for the highway team as well. But like all projects here at the NTSB it's never just one or two individuals, it's a team effort, and it's required a lot of effort from those who are not named, and who were not listed on the slide that started today's presentations: the office of the chief financial officer (the CFO) - they pay the bills; the folks that fix our computers – they're important. Not to mention the human resources that really provided us with a great team... and I could go on and on. None of our work at NTSB would happen without the contributions of all of the people behind the scenes.

This study brings to light how much our current knowledge has yet to be applied to our roads.

Speeding is ingrained in life all around us. It takes a study like this to pull together speeding's impact toward some answers.

What it boils down to is the old expression that "speed kills." It's not like in my flying days when we said "speed is life." Speed kills on our roadways. This study tells us how it kills, and how we can stop some of the killing.

In short, this study's about finding and enforcing speeds that we all can live with. This study's recommendations, if acted on, will be about adding years to all those lives that might otherwise have been cut short in speeding-related crashes.

Thank you, and we stand adjourned.

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